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Second Majors and Minors

Jean-Paul Carton

Georgia Southern University

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Approved by the Senate: 10/29/2007
Not Approved by the Senate:
Approved by the President: 11/14/2007
Not Approved by the President:

Second Majors and Minors

Submitted by Jean-Paul Carton

10/9/2007

Motion:

To require (1) that students officially declare minors and second majors so that these may be recorded in Banner in order to make the information readily available to the appropriate administrators and faculty and that (2) minors and second majors be indicated on Georgia Southern University diplomas

Rationale:

Currently there is no way to identify easily and accurately the number of majors and minors in the various disciplines. Being able to do so is necessary in order to better manage and evaluate programs. For example, a recent decision from the chancellor's office concerning several major programs was based solely on the number of majors in these programs, some of which involve double majors. Second majors were not counted. The availability of the information provided under the terms of the first part of this motion would also make it readily possible to indicate students' second majors and minors on their diplomas.

SEC Response:

This item was placed on the October 29, 2007, agenda. The second part of the motion re: diplomas was referred back to the Faculty Welfare Committee.

Senate Response:

One of the agenda requests actually contained two numbered items, and the SEC decided that the one item needed a little further exploration so we sent it back to them: that is, the part about what gets printed on Georgia Southern diplomas. The major part of that about recording majors and minors is an agenda for today. Jean Paul moved that we require that students officially declare minors and second majors, so that these may be recorded in BANNER, in order to make the information readily available to the appropriate administrators and faculty. The motion was seconded. Linda Bleicken (Provost) noted that the catalogue asks that minors and second majors be declared as soon as they are known. In discussing this with the registrar, Mike Deal, she suggested that since there is already something in the catalogue that asks the students to do this, perhaps we could try to get our advisement centers to work on getting students to declare minors and second majors. Jean Paul Carton (CLASS) noted that the purpose of the motion is to have this information recorded in BANNER for various purposes, including the evaluations of programs. There was a recent evaluation of the various programs and recommendations made by the Chancellor's office, based only on first majors. He noted that the practices of not counting second majors and minors may have some impact on the evaluation of programs. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator called for a vote and the motion passed.

President's Response:

From Dr. Grube: Following review of the recommendation adopted by the Faculty Senate at the October 29, 2007, Faculty Senate meeting, as provided in your memo of October 30, 2007, I have approved the motion below presented to the Senate by Dr. Jean-Paul Carton. MOTION: To require that students officially declare minors and second majors so that these may be recorded in BANNER in order to make the information readily available to the appropriate administrators and faculty.